



BIBA appoints its first female president

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The Barbados International Business Association (BIBA) has appointed its first female president.

Penny Ettinger of Bayshore Bank & Trust has taken the mantle from outgoing president George Gleadall, who will remain on BIBA's board as head of that organization's Research and Development Committee.

Ettinger was elected during BIBA's recently held annual general meeting. During a recent interview with *Business Monday* at a seminar at the Barbados Yacht Club, Ettinger highlighted her objectives and goals during her tenure as president.

"We are working more closely and in conjunction with the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC), and our objective is to make sure that Barbados remains at the forefront in the international business sector. Barbados has many assets and its treaty network is one of its greatest assets. We intend to work more closely with Government and the private sector to ensure that Barbados remains at the forefront," she said.

Ettinger further noted that BIBA will continue to look at new initiatives and programmes to assist the development of the sector, through its Research and Development Committee.

Commenting on the new appointment with *Business Monday*, outgoing BIBA president George Gleadall expressed his confidence that BIBA will continue to play a pivotal role in the development of the international business sector.

"As outgoing president I am pleased that we managed to pull the various associations together under BIBA. We have created our own secretariat and employed Henderson Holmes as our executive director, which was a very good move. Holmes is very skilled in the international

business sector, and we are confident that the sector will continue to grow from strength to strength and have more representation within the country." He continued, "I would also like to appeal to businesses which benefit from international business, particularly the lawyers, to join BIBA and make the association bigger and stronger, and to allow for a greater voice by local service providers in the development of the industry."

Executive director of BIBA Henderson Holmes also commented on the appointment of Penny Ettinger.

"This is the first time in the history of BIBA that it has had a female president. We now have a good mix of representation: we have the local legal fraternity represented in the form of Andrew Thornhill, and we have local international business managers represented in the form of Stephen Greaves and Donville Inniss. This helps to convey the understanding within BIBA that international business is not only about foreign investors, it is about Barbados," Holmes noted.